

Who's minding the kids? Child care arrangements: Spring 2005 ^[1]

Author: U.S. Census Bureau

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AVAILABILITY

Census data ^[2]

Excerpts from press release: Relatives regularly provide child care to almost half of the more than 19 million preschoolers, according to tabulations released by the U.S. Census Bureau. Fathers and grandparents were the primary relative child care providers. The series of tables, *Who's Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Spring 2005*, showed that among the 11.3 million children younger than 5 whose mothers were employed, 30 percent were cared for on a regular basis by a grandparent during their mother's working hours. A slightly greater percentage spent time in an organized care facility, such as a day care center, nursery or preschool. Meanwhile, 25 percent received care from their fathers, 3 percent from siblings and 8 percent from other relatives when mothers went to work. The tables provide data on child care arrangements of preschoolers and grade-schoolers by various demographic characteristics of the employed mother. They also profile children who care for themselves on a regular basis and examine the size of weekly child care payments made by selected characteristics of the family.

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